

July 6, 2004

Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 04-207

Dear Chairman Powell:

Allanza Dominicana is the largest Dominican-led organization in the country. As Alianza works to fulfill its mission to serve Dominicans and shape pubic policy in areas that affect our community, we come in contact with literally tens of thousands of Dominicans throughout the nation.

Today, I am writing you to present our concerns on an issue that affects our community – diversity in television programming. It is our fear that the implementation of an a la curie value system would reduce or eliminate programming aimed at minority groups, particularly the Dominican community.

Although the Dominican community in America is a rather diverse one, a significant percentage of Dominican households contain first-generation and Spanish-dominant individuals. For these Dominicans, the wide variety of Spanish-language and Hispanic-oriented programming available on cable provides a critical and comforting link to traditional Dominican culture as well as an important avenue for understanding the country in which we live.

Though important to our community, many of these channels do not attract a large audience. Under the proposed a la carte system these channels would have trouble attracting enough subscribers and enough advertising revenue to survive.

Furthermore, without a guaranteed subscriber base (as provided in the current bundling system), it will become more difficult for new channels with a Dominican focus to launch even as the community continues to grow.

In the interests of protecting the interests of minorities and maintaining diversity on cable, I implore you to reject the "a la carte" system.

Sincerely,

Moises Perez

Executive Director